

**Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council (MICC)**  
**EARLY ON<sup>®</sup> MICHIGAN (PART C OF IDEA)**  
**Friday, September 12, 2008**  
**Michigan Department of Education**  
**State Board of Education Room**

**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Keith Alexander, Barbara Corbin, Kendra Edwards, Sheri Falvay, Laura Jensen Hunt, Julie Lagos, Mark Larson, Julie Lumeng, Mac Miller, Joan Moiles, Johanna Ostwald, Mark Reigle, Mary Roberts (via phone)

**Alternates Present:** Debbie Bedard, Lindy Buch, Christy Callahan, Lori Irish, Chandra Jones, John Norton

**Staff Present:** Jessica Brady, Brenda Fink, Ed Kemp, Cheryl Najm, Colleen O'Connor, Nancy Peeler, Dawn Ritter, Karen Roback, Barb Schinderle, Vanessa Winborne

**Grantees Present:** *Early On<sup>®</sup>* Training and Technical Assistance:  
Christy Callahan  
Michigan Alliance for Families  
Jeanne Brakhage, Sandee Koski, Regina Hilburn, Jessie Morton, Khalilah Obima  
Qualitative Compliance Information Project  
Jason Hardacre, Charo Hulleza

**Guests:** Suzette Burkitt-Wesolek, Dr. Layla Mohammed, Sue Moran

**Call to Order:** Chairperson Mark Larson called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

**Introductions:** Introductions were made and new members and staff were welcomed.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**A motion was made by Sheri Falvay and supported by John Norton to approve the minutes.**

**Motion carried.**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**A motion was made by Johanna Ostwald and supported by Sheri Falvay to approve the amended agenda.**

**Motion carried.**

**Public Comment:** None.

## **Updates:**

### *Determinations and Public Reporting*

Section 616 and 642 of the 2004 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires Determinations and Public Reporting. Each state will receive a Determination each year. There are four possible categories of Determinations a state may receive:

1. Meets Requirements
2. Needs Assistance
3. Needs Intervention
4. Needs Substantial Intervention

This year Michigan received a Needs Assistance Determination which is an improvement from last year's Determination of Needs Intervention. Soon the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will be releasing Determinations for each of the 57 intermediate school districts (ISDs). Determinations are considered from data in Indicators 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of the Annual Performance Report (APR). MDE also considers information related to ISDs from fiscal audits, quarterly reports, Michigan Compliance Information System (MICIS) data, and monitoring data. Currently, ISDs have received their data from MDE to review, and the data will be made available through Public Reporting; however, the Determination of each ISD will not be made public. Public Reporting includes the local media and MDE's website.

At the end of September, Determinations and Public Reporting will be released, and a Camtasia presentation will be available on MDE's website for ISDs to review to learn more about Determinations and Public Reporting.

### *Measuring Child and Family Outcomes Conference*

Vanessa Winborne and Julie Lagos co-presented at a conference in Baltimore in August. The workshop focused on how professionals and parents are partnering to measure child outcomes, which is Indicator 3 of the APR. Julie talked about the Parent Involvement Committee, shared the workplan and the various activities members are involved with such as reviewing documents, serving as readers for the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, and providing guidance on policies. Michigan is doing more than other states in this area.

The federal government is working on how to do summary reports for child outcomes. Currently there are 15 data points, which OSEP is trying to collapse into one or two summary statements so it is less work for states to report this data, which will be reported in 2010. Summary statements would look at the percentage of children who made movement toward progress as a result of early intervention.

The Early Childhood Outcome (ECO) Center is in their final year, and the contract will be rebid. The recipient of the award has not yet been announced; however, the next phase of the project will be scaled down.

### *Qualitative Compliance Information Project Request for Proposal (RFP) Update*

Wayne State University was awarded the Qualitative Compliance Information Project grant as a result of the RFP process.

### *DECA/IT Update*

The DECA/IT is the selected tool to identify social emotional concerns. A workplan is being developed for the roll out and training of *Early On* staff. The original person who was going to lead this effort is not going to do so, and efforts are being made to identify a new individual.

### *CAPTA Joint Training*

The CAPTA Ad Hoc Committee has been working to create a training module and manual so when CAPTA referrals come in, there is good communication about how to correctly handle the referrals and report data. Once approved by MDE, a 'Train the Trainer' workshop will take place so local *Early On* Coordinators and Department of Human Service Supervisors are trained together and then will, in turn, provide training to their staff. Dawn Ritter and Jessica Brady will present this finalized information to the MICC at the November meeting.

### *Budget Ad Hoc Committee*

The Budget Ad Hoc Committee was charged by the MICC to look at fiscal priorities and to review the funding formula. Along with Council members, several stakeholders are participating on the committee. The next meeting is September 26, 2008 and members will be looking at specific funding formula options with the help of MDE's fiscal manager.

Since the last MICC meeting, MDE received the final award for fiscal year 2008-2009. A decrease of approximately \$300,000 occurred. The federal award has been less for several years due in part to declining population in Michigan. There is a need to identify and secure additional funds for the *Early On* population. Some options discussed were billing Medicaid for children in *Early On* receiving school-based services, changing the boilerplate for Part B and Part C funding, and working with the legislature to acquire state funds. A fund expansion committee would be needed to explore these issues in greater detail.

### *Kellogg Grant Opportunity*

Christy Callahan shared information about a grant opportunity through the Kellogg Foundation. The grant focuses on vulnerable children in Michigan, Mississippi, and New Mexico, and its intent is to work with communities to increase opportunities that will help children succeed. A video was shown explaining the overview and the importance of community assets. Through the video, themes emerged that align with *Early On*'s mission. A recommendation will be made in March 2009 for grant funding.

**A motion was made by Sheri Falvay and supported by Johanna Ostwald to form an Ad Hoc Committee to apply for the Kellogg Foundation grant.**

### **Discussion:**

Suggestions:

- ☐ If awarded, the money could be used to set up an endowment that would grow over time.
- ☐ Target urban areas that are impoverished and where the need is the greatest and develop a product that could be replicated in other communities.
- ☐ The money could be used to level the playing field for ISDs as a result of the funding formula.
- ☐ Address the issue of tying all services together in a community.

- ☐ Tie the money into the ABCD Project that supports physician's screening.
- ☐ In Boston, early intervention providers are present in health clinics and provide developmental screening for children when they come in for vaccinations.
- ☐ The Michigan Alliance for Families could better support parent involvement with additional funds and their mission aligns with some of the priorities identified.
- ☐ The Inter-Tribal Council serves seven tribes within *Early On* and Head Start and poverty is an issue affecting many children and families in this population. Many Native Americans also reside in urban areas. A suggestion was made to partner with the directors from the Inter-Tribal Council and Head Start.
- ☐ Let the Ad Hoc Committee decide best how to use the money.

Part C of IDEA mandates that underserved populations are included, which would encompass all ideas shared during this discussion. Wayne State University collects evidence-based data from families and it can be shown that in urban areas parents are reporting lower levels of satisfaction and fewer successes of outcomes for children.

**Motion carried.**

Keith Alexander, Christy Callahan, and Mac Miller volunteered to chair this Ad Hoc Committee and a sign-up sheet went around the room. The first meeting will be scheduled in October and members will be contacted.

**Michigan Alliance for Families Presentation:**

Sandee Koski, along with some of the Michigan Alliance for Families staff, Jessie Morton, Regina Hilburn, Jeanne Brakhage, and Khalilah Obima shared a PowerPoint presentation. The Michigan Alliance for Families provides information, resources and referrals, parent support, and learning opportunities. In addition, all staff are parents of children with special needs.

The Michigan Alliance for Families consists of a statewide Information and Referral component, which means there is a toll-free phone number families can call for disability-specific information, and folders are sent to families per request. The information can also be accessed through their website. There are five regions throughout the state where Michigan Alliance for Families offices are located, and each is set up to provide parent support and learning opportunities, and has a regional parent mentor.

Regional parent mentors told success stories of working with some of the parents in their region who have developed leadership skills and are partnering with professionals to improve lives of children and families.

The Arc Michigan was awarded a grant through the United Way for Wayne County, which will be used in addition to the MDE funding to supplement the region in Wayne County. To best serve the families of Wayne County, the Michigan Alliance for Families developed an Advisory Committee consisting of people from Wayne County. Vanessa Winborne also serves on the committee and feels the work done in this region is very well done. Charo Hulleza from Wayne State University shared that data from the Family Survey shows that the Michigan Alliance for Families receives high ratings from parents and that they are making improvements in their child's IFSPs.

Sandee shared some Michigan Alliance for Families brochures and magnets and asked Council members to spread the word in their community.

**Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD) Project:**

A PowerPoint presentation was distributed by Suzette Burkitt-Wesolek and Sue Moran from the ABCD Project. The goal of the ABCD Project is to promote the use of an objective developmental screening tool as part of well-child care. The target population is infants and toddlers, age birth to three who are eligible for Medicaid. A pilot study was done in nine pediatric practices and data from the first six months looks promising for identifying children who are eligible for early intervention services.

Dr. Layla Mohammed is a pediatrician who participated in the pilot project and shared with the Council her experiences over the first six months. The highlights include:

- ☐ It worked best to ask parents to fill out the screening tool while waiting in the exam room.
- ☐ The Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) tool was preferred and the physician can score the ASQ and provide the results to the parents immediately.
- ☐ The physician referral rate was higher due to the ABCD screening.
- ☐ To make a referral, the *Early On* website was used and physicians were pleased with it and found it easy to use.
- ☐ A form was used to work with FERPA and HIPPA laws.

Council members liked the *Early On* Child Find Referral Process flow chart that was used during Dr. Mohammad's presentation and would like to also use it, as well as learn more about the form used for FERPA and HIPPA laws.

**MICC Appointments/Business:**

*MICC Appointment Terms*

On October 31, 2008, Representative Brenda Clack, Sr. Barbara Cline, Mac Miller and Mark Reigle's MICC appointment terms will expire. Mac and Mark both wish to be reappointed and the Governor's office will take care of this for them. Sr. Barbara Cline represented 'Other Individuals' and this seat needs to be replaced because Sr. Barbara has been reassigned by the Catholic Diocese and is no longer working within the *Early On* system. Representative Clack's term in the Michigan House of Representatives is ending so she will not be reappointed.

In addition, Pattie Walter, Head Start representative, has resigned. Her alternate, Debbie Bedard is in the process of submitting the paperwork to be appointed.

Cynthia Shore Banks, service provider representative, has also resigned. Members were encouraged to circulate appointment forms to interested individuals.

John Norton and Chandra Jones are the super alternates for parents and will attend all MICC and Parent Involvement Committee meetings and fill in as voting members when needed.

### *Formation of Subcommittees*

Council members discussed developing a Fund Expansion Committee and an APR committee. The Fund Expansion committee would take on the task of searching for additional funding streams for *Early On*. The APR committee would review data for the APR in the following areas: Timeliness of services, Early Intervention Services in the Natural Environment, Timelines, Child Find, Child and Family Outcomes, and Transition.

The following committees are currently in place under the MICC:

- \* The Parent Involvement Committee
- \* The Executive Committee
- \* The Budget Ad Hoc Committee
- \* The Kellogg Foundation Grant Ad Hoc Committee

Ideas that were suggested were:

- Maximize Medicaid billing for eligible children.
- Research foundations that have funds for children and families.
- Review fiscal studies done by other organizations such as the ECIC and DHS.
- The Fund Expansion Committee would need to tie into work that is already being done, with the right people and staff at the table.

Currently the Management Team is discussing fund expansion issues. Lindy Buch, Sheri Falvay, Brenda Fink and Ted Forrest will prepare a presentation for the November MICC meeting informing members of all the different pieces that need to go into this work. Some of the aspects that will be included are Medicaid and state funding.

At the February meeting, or a retreat early next year, the Council will discuss creating subcommittees. As for the APR committee, MDE will bring the report to the Council for comments and suggestions.

### *Retreat for 2009/Meeting Dates*

The MICC is in favor of having a retreat in 2009, and a date will be determined.

**A motion was made by Sheri Falvay and supported by Mark Reigle to accept the proposed dates for MICC business meetings and Executive Committee meetings.**

**Motion carried.**

MICC Meeting dates

February 6, 2009

May 8, 2009

September 11, 2009

November 13, 2009

Executive Committee Meeting dates

January 16, 2009

April 17, 2009

August 21, 2009

October 23, 2009

### **Early On Colloquium:**

*Early On* Training and Technical Assistance is holding a faculty colloquium at Lansing Community College, Friday, September 19, 2008. The colloquium will provide ideas and strategies for incorporating early intervention content into curriculum, coursework and community sites and will also feature a keynote, workshops, and roundtable discussions.

**Early On Conference:**

The Annual *Early On* Conference will take place October 23-24, 2008 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. Lee Ann Jung from the University of Kentucky is the keynote speaker. The *Early On* Coordinator Pre-Conference day is October 22, where coordinators will discuss Determinations, data and other issues facing the system. All are invited to attend a special gathering, Thursday, October 23, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Kellogg Center for Sr. Barbara Cline.

**Public Comment:**

Mac Miller shared that Livingston CMH is pooling money with the Livingston school district to have an electronic web-based application which will be in place by January.

**Adjourn:**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Sheri Falvay.**

**Motion carried.**